Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS

AMCONSUL NAHA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

INFO CINCPAC

COGARD

GOVGUAM

TREASURY

XMT AMEMBASSY SUVA

AMEMBASSY RANGOON

UNCLAS STATE 297073

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, XC, US

SUBJECT: DECMEBER 17 EA PRESS SUMMARY

1. AUSTRALIA

SEVERAL SR LABOR PARTY MEMBERS EXPRESS OPPOSITION TO REELECTION WHITLAM AS PARTY LEADER (WP).

2. TIMOR/INDONESIA

GOI FORCES IN TIMOR MEET SOLID RESISTANCE FROM FRETILIN, WITH LATTER CLAIMING FIERCE FIGHTING IN DILI, BAUCAU. UNSC CONTINUES DEBATE ON LISBON REQUEST THAT GOI BE CHARGED WITH AGGRESSION (WP).

S MOLUCCAN CLERGYMAN REOPENS NEGOTIATIONS WITH GUNMEN UNCLASSIFIED

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HOLDING HOSTAGES IN INDO CONSULATE AMSTERDAM WITHOUT RESULTS (UPI NYDN, CHITRIB; REUTER, SUN). GOVT SPOKESMAN SAID FURTHER TALKS WOULD TAKE PLACE WEDS (UPI, CHITRIB).

CRITCHFIELD (CHITRIB) AT JAKARTA DESCRIBES LIFE, EARNINGS OF RESIDENTS CITY'S SLUMS. NOTES AREAS BREED HUNGER, UNEMPLOYMENT, PROVIDE SHATTERING RELEASE FROM PREVIOUS SOCIAL RESTRAINTS. TELLS OF RELATIVELY WELL-OFF PROSTITUES WHOSE PARENTS IN HOME VILLAGE WOULD "DIE OR KILL ME" IF

KNEW TRUTH.

3. MALAYSIA

TROOPS UNCOVER BURIED CACHE WITH ENOUGH FOOD LAST COMMUNIST GUERRILLAS 3 YEARS (CSM).

4. JAPAN

GOJ TUESDAY SAID GNP REGISTERED FIRST POST-WAR DECLINE IN JFY 74, 0.2 PCT, TO 300.9 BILLION DOLS. PER CAPITA INCOME ROSE TO 3,433 DOLS, FOR RECORD POSTWAR ANNUAL GAIN (AP, NYT, WP).

CULLISON (JOC) CITES EPA FORECAST TUESDAY THAT GNP EXPECTED GROW 2.2 PCT REAL TERMS IN JFY 75. RELEASE VIEWED AS COUNTER TO RECENT KEIDANREN PREDICTION OF ZERO GROWTH.

ISUZU MTRS (JAPANESE AFFILIATE OF GM) PLANNING MANAGEMENT CHANGE TO GIVE FIRM'S MAJOR BANKS, C. ITOH STRONGER VOICE. TOP GM OFFICIAL IN JAPAN, ROBT LOCKWOOD, EXPECTED BECOME ISUZU EXEC-VP. SPOKESMAN IN DETROIT SAYS REORGANIZATION "THEIR AFFAIR", NOT PUSHED BY GM (WSJ, TOKYO).

JOC'S MORRISON IN WASHINGTON NOTES SEATRAIN HAS TOLD FMC OF CONCERN THAT DISCUSSION AGREEMENT BY US, JAPAN FLAG CARRIERS "MAY OVERLAP AND DUPLICATE" ALL POSSIBLE TRADES BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES. DOT TOLD FMC VAGUE TERMS, IF APPROVED, WOULD PERMIT "VARIETY OF POSSIBLY UNCLASSIFIED

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ANTI-COMPETITIVE RESULTS".

REUTER'S NAKAMIKADO (CSM) RELATES FISCAL PROBLEMS FACING TOKYO. UNLIKE NYC SERVICES NOT YET CUT, AND SEEMS LITTLE RISK OF METROPOLIS GOING BROKE. ALSO DIFFERS FROM NCC BECAUSE CENTRALIZED TAX AND ADMINISTRATIVE SYSTEM PROVIDES THAT LOCAL GOVT IN DEFICIT BEYOND CERTAIN POINT LIABLE TO COME UNDER CENTRAL GOVT CONTROL TO PUT FINANCES IN ORDER.

METZ (NYT) STATES TV MAKERS "PERPLEXED AND ANGERED" BY APPARENT UNWILLINGNESS OF JUSDEPT CHALLENGE FOREIGN TAKEOVER OF US COLOR TV PRODUCTION. CITES MATSUSHITA-

MOTOROLA, PHILLIPS-MAGNAVOX DEALS, AND SANYO DISCUSSIONS WITH WHIRLPOOL TO TAKE OVER WARWICK ELECTRONICS.

TAIHEIYO LIONS SAID NEGOTIATING TO HIRE LEO DUROCHER AS MANAGER (AP, NYDN).

JAPANESE FISHERMAN MASANORI SAWADA WHO ALLEGEDLY SUPPLIED ROAD MAPS, SDE DEPLOYMENTS IN RETURN FOR SOV PERMISSION FISH OFF NORTHERN ISLANDS REPORTED ARRESTED BY SOV LAST MONTH, HAS NOT BEEN HEARD FROM SINCE. ARRESTED LAST MAY, FINED ON CHARGE VIOLATED QUARANTINE LAW, WHICH POLICE SAID WERE ONLY GROUNDS FOR PROSECUTION SINCE JAPAN HAS NO ANTI-ESPIONAGE LAW (AP, WP).

5. THAILAND/INDOCHINA

LAST US WARPLANES WILL LEAVE COUNTRY IN 2 DAYS; 45 NON-COMBAT PLANES WILL BE REMOVED LATER (WSJ).

RTG SAYS WILL OUST KHMER EMIGRE LEADER, FORMER PM IN TAM WHO ACCUSED INSTIGATING ARMED INCIDENTS ALONG THAI-CAMBODIAN BORDER. MFA ANNOUNCES RTG, KR AUTHORITIES MEETING AT BATTAMBANG IN EFFORT RESOLVE BORDER DISPUTE (AFP, NYT).

INDIAN NAVY SEIZES 2 THAI TRAWLERS, ARRESTS 50 FISHERMEN ON CHARGES ILLEGAL FISHING (REUTER, NYT). UNCLASSIFIED

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NYT'S BUTTERFIELD AT VIENTIANE REPORTS RE-EDUCATION KEEPS LAOTIANS UP LATE IN ENDLESS SEMINARS. CONTENT OF LONG CLASSES SIMPLE, WITH ALMOST NO MARXIST IDEOLOGY; EMPHASIS IS ON FOREIGN AGGRESSION AGAINST LAOS BY BURMESE, THAIS, FRENCH, JAPANESE, AMERICANS. BELIEVES SEMINARS SUCCESSFUL AMONG YOUTH, JUDGING FROM NUMBER VOLUNTEERS FOR PL YOUTH ASSN; CLASSES MORE ARDUOUS FOR SENIOR OFFICIALS PREVIOUS GOVT, WITH 2-3000 SENT NE LAOS MOUNTAINS TO WRITE LENGTHY CONFESSIONS, LABOR, BUT NONE SO FAR RETURNED.

6. PHILIPPINES

CSM'S SOUTHERLAND AT MANILA REVIEWS LAND-REFORM PROGRAM, FINDS MARCOS HAS ACCOMPLISHED MORE THAN ANY PREVIOUS ADMIN IN FIELD BUT SLOWDOWN IN DISTRIBUTION TITLES, HIGH COMPENSATION TO PREVIOUS LANDLORDS HAVE LED MANY EXPERTS QUESTION ULTIMATE OUTCOME. OPINES LAND-REFORM NOT GOING COME NEAR ACHIEVING WHAT FIRST PROMISED SINCE LIMITED TO RICE, CORN LAND; MANY ELIGIBLE TENANTS STILL MAKE SUBSTANTIAL PAYMENTS TO LANDLORDS; PROGRAM FAILS BENEFIT LANDLESS RURAL DAY-WAGE LABORERS; SKEPTICS

DOUBT ABILITY FORMER TENANTS ACT AS INDEPENDENT

FARMERS. NOTES HIGH RATE EVICTION OF TENANTS ON COCONUT LANDS BY OWNERS WHO FEAR FUTURE LAND REFORM. GIVES REASONS WHY LAND REFORM WOULD BE NO EASY TASK IN PHILS UNDER ANY GOVT. POINTS OUT GOVT CAREFUL GIVE FAIR TREATMENT TO SMALL LANDOWNERS, WHO ORGANIZE IN MANY AREAS TO RESIST REFORM. EXPERTS DIVIDED: SOME THINK EXPECTATIONS RAISED SO HIGH THAT EXPLOSIVE SITUATION WOULD DEVELOP; OTHERS ARGUE TENANCY JUST ONE OF NUMBER OF CAUSES UNREST. QUOTES OBSERVERS THAT AFTER PROMISES, RHETORIC, LAND-REFORM FAILURE WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO APATHY, CYNICISM.

GOP, WITH BOP DEFICIT OF HALF-BILLION DOLS THIS YEAR, WILL BEGIN NEGOTIATE WITH US BANKS FOR NEW CREDIT MEET SHORTFALLS IN EXPORT EARNINGS; ALSO NEGOTIATING WITH IMF AID. PHILS APPARENTLY WON'T BENEFIT TO GREAT UNCLASSIFIED

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EXTENT FROM US GSP FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES (WELS, JOC).

7. HONG KONG

CHASE MANHATTEN OPENS FULLY-OWNED CHASE ASIA BANK TO SERVICE GOVTS, MAJOR LOCAL COMPANIES, MULTINATIONALS IN REGION. FIRST MAJOR DEAL IS 200 MILLION DOL DEVELOPMENT LOAN TO MALAYSIA SYNDICATED BY 56 BANKS (UPI, JOC).

8. KOREA

LINDSAY (NYT) REPORTS FROM LA THAT ROKG PAID 2 MILLION DOLS TO INTERMEDIARY FOR UNUSED LOCKHEED SOLID FUEL ROCKET MOTOR FACILITY. LOCKHEED WILL SEND SOME EMPLOYEES TO HELP SET UP EQUIPMENT IN SK. CITES USG SOURCES THAT LOCKHEED UNSUCCESSFULL IN 18-MONTH LONG ATTEMPT GET APPROVAL SELL PLANT, BECAUSE OF OPPOSITION IN "CERTAIN QUARTERS" OF DOS. SOLD EQUIPMENT TO PACIFIC INTL, WHICH OBTAINED COMM DEPT EXPORT LICENSE WHEN DOS DECIDED MUNITIONS CONTROL BOARD CLEARANCE NOT REQUIRED ON GROUNDS DOES NOT INVOLVE HIGH TECHNOLOGY, EXPORT OF WEAPONS KNOW-HOW.

CHITRIB RUNS PART IV OF NYDN SERIES BY COTTER, RELATING HOW "DEPROGRAMMERS" USED BY FAMILIES TO HELP MEMBERS WITHDRAW FROM SUN MYUNG MOON CULT.

9. CHINA

PRC POLITBURO MEMBER KANG SHENG DIED AT 74; RANKED 4TH IN CP AFTER MAO, CHOU, WANG HUNG-WEN (CSM; AP,

SUN; WHITMAN, NYT; WP). WAS SHADOWY INTELL EXPERT

WHO ROSE TO GREAT POWER DURING GPCR (WP). PROMOTED USE COMMON LANGUAGE TO REPLACE CHINA'S NUMEROUS DIALECTS (WHITMAN).

GWERTZMAN (NYT, EXCERPTED IN SUN) REPORTS THAT, AGAINST CONSULTANT'S ADVICE, DOUBLEDAY PUBLISHES SOVIET-SUPPLIED BOOK THAT PURPORTS PROVIDE INSIDE INFO - MUCH OF IT UNCLASSIFIED

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DEROGATORY - ABOUT MAO, FOLLOWERS DURING WW II. FORMER FSO JOHN S. SERVICE SUBMITTED LONG CRITIQUE TO PUBLISHER RAISING QUESTION ABOUT AUTHENTICITY "VLADIMIROV DIARIES," RECOMMENDING AGAINST PUBLICATION. BOOK SAID BE DIARY VLADIMIROV WHO WAS BASED N SHENSI PROV 1942-5 AS CORRESPONDENT, COMINTERN REP. BASIC THEME IS THAT MAO, FOLLOWERS NOT LOYAL COMMUNITS, WERE ANTI-RUSSIAN, EAGER MAKE DEAL WITH US. PARTICULAR SCORN RESERVED FOR KANG SHENG, CHIANG CHING. NYT DROPPED PLANS SYNDICATE BOOK IN PAPERS. CONTROVERSY CONCERNS WHETHER ACTUALLY WAS DIARY KEPT BY VLADIMIROV, FABRICATED, OR MATERIAL ADDED.

RR CHAIRMAN SAYS ROLLS ENGINE COULD PLAY KEY ROLE IN CHINESE AVIATION UP TO END CENTURY (CSM).

TAIWAN IMPORTS MORE CORN, SOYBEANS, BUT LESS BARLEY, WHEAT IN FIRST 8 MOS THIS YEAR COMPARED SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR. US WAS MAJOR SUPPLIER (JOC). BROWN (CSM) TELLS HUMAN-INTEREST STORY OF TAIPEI RAGPICKER WHO IS PHILANTHRPOIST, SCHOLAR, POET; HAD LITTLE FORMAL EDUCATION, SPENT MANY YEARS IN MIL SERVICE, NOW PAYS FOR SCHOLARSHIPS TO ALLOW POOR CHILDREN ATTEND MIDDLE SCHOOL. DONATES BOOKS TO LIBRARIES.

COMMENT AND ANALYSIS

10. AUSTRALIA

SUN NOTES AUSSIE TURN TO RIGHT, SAYS CONTEST TURNED ON POLITICAL PRINCIPLE OF SOVEREIGNTY OF PEOPLE'S REPS VS CHECKS AND BALANCES. REVIEWS WHITLAM'S OUSTER, FRASER'S OBSTRUCTION OF BUDGET IN SENATE, GOVGEN'S ROLE. BELIEVES ELECTION VINDICATED GOVGEN, FRASER. FINDS MORAL THAT WHITLAM HAD MANDATE TO GOVERN EXISTING SYSTEM, NOT JUSTIFY GREAT CHANGES. PREDICTS LABOR PARTY CAN RECOVER. WARNS FRASER AGAINST PERSONALITY CULT, ESPECIALLY IF FAILS DELIVER PROSPERITY.

11. INDONESIA

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CSM (12/16) DECRIES TAKING HOSTAGES BY TERRORISTS,
APPLAUDS POLICE PATIENCE, RESTRAINT IN TRAIN INCIDENT
INVOLVING MOLUCCAN GUNMEN. ON SAME SUBJECT, WP (12/16)
NOTES DUTCH OUTWAITED TERRORISTS ON TRAIN, PREPARED
OUTWAIT MOLUCCANS OCCUPYING INDO CONSULATE. CHITRIB
APPLAUDS NETHERLANDS' GOVT FOR NOT DEALING WITH TERRORISTS,
NOTES MOLUCCAN GUNMEN SURRENDERED AFTER TEST OF ENDURANCE.
SEES NO RATIONAL ALTERNATIVE FOR INDO CONSULATE SIEGE
BUT FOR DUTCH GOVT SEE IT THROUGH IN SAME WAY.

12. INDOCHINA/THAILAND/MALAYSIA

CHITRIB (12/12) NOTES PL TOOK OVER LAOS, CALL IT FIRST INDOCHINA DOMINO TO TOTTER, LAST TO FALL. RECALLS EISENHOWER, KENNEDY EXPECTED LAOS GO FIRST; SAYS THEY WERE WRONG ABOUT ORDER, RIGHT ABOUT FALL OF ONE LEADING TO FALL OTHERS. POINTS OUT COMMUNISTS IN BORDER CLASHES WITH THAILAND, GUERRILLAS AT WORK IN MALAYSIA. BELIEVES HANOI INVOLVED IN ALL THESE DISORDERS, IS OUT DOMINATE SEA. SAYS FUTURE NON-COMMUNIST COUNTRIES OF AREA DEPENDS ON WHO WELL THEY LOOK TO OWN DEFENSES, HOW PERSUASIVELY SHOW WILLING USE THEM. THINKS GOOD CHANCE BY ADROIT DIPLOMACY COMMUNISTS CAN BE EMBROILED IN WAR AMONG SELVES: HANOI-SOVIET BLOC VS PEKING-CAMBODIAN BLOC.

13. KOREA

NYT EXCERPTS PORTIONS OF KIM CHI-HA "DECLARATION OF CONSCIENCE" FROM WIN MAGAZINE, WRITTEN IN PRISON WHERE AUTHOR HELD ON CHARGES VIOLATED ANTI-COMMUNIST LAW. KIM CHARGES PARK REGIME TYING HIM UP IN "CONSPIRITORIAL NET OF INCREDIBLE LIES". DECLARES "CONFESSION" CITED BY ROKG TO PROVE HE COMMUNIST WAS "NOT A VOLUNTARY STATEMENT", WAS MADE BY POWERLESS INDIVIDUAL IN UNDERGROUND INTERROGATION ROOM OF KCIA, AN "ALMIGHTY AGENCY OF STATE TERROR, BEYOND ANY LAW OF DECENCY."

14. JAPAN

KRAFT (WP, SUN) IN TOKYO STATES JOURNEY FROM POETIC UNCLASSIFIED

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PEKING TO PROSAIC TOKYO IS "SOBERING AND INSTRUCTIVE EXPERIENCE" THAT ILLUSTRATES TRUE LESSON OFPRES' RECENT TRIP TO PACIFIC -- US CONNECTION WITH CHINA CAN HAVE SERIOUS IMPACT ON USSR ONLY IF US ALSO MAINTAINS CLOSE RAPPORT WITH JAPAN. REVIEWS DEVELOPMENTS THAT MEAN

THREE-CORNERED GAME DEVISED BY NIXON, HAK AS PROD

TO RUSSIANS HAS LOST MOST OF ITS FORCE. CONCLUDES COOPERATION BETWEEN US, PRC WORKS ONLY IF GAME IS JOINED BY JAPAN -- WHICH HAS BECOME PERHAPS KEY NATION FOR US FOREIGN POLICY.

15. CHINA

JOHN FAIRBANK WRITES WP TO POINT OUT "LOCUS CLASSICUS" BY WM SHAWCROSS WHO WROTE IN DEC 7 OUTLOOK SECTION THAT FIRST CH'IN EMPEROR WAS ONLY MAN APART FROM MAO TO UNITE, GOVERN CHINA. ASKS WHAT HAPPENED TO 80-ODD EMPERORS OF WHO RULED ALL OF CHINA UNDER HAN, T,ANG, YUAN, MING AND CH'ING DYNASTIES. RUTH DUNNELL ALSO WRITES WP ABOUT SHAWCROSS' "WOEFUL IGNORANCE" OF CHINESE HISTORY.

SUN'S SEIDEN IN PEKING DESCRIBES SHOPPING TRIP, BY
BICYCLE, TO SEE HOW CHINESE SPEND THEIR MONEY. AS
IN CHINESE COMMUNITIES EVERYWHERE, STORES CROWDED,
BUSTLING WITH SHOPPERS, WINDOW-SHOPPERS. PRICES SET
BY GOVT REFLECT PRIORITIES -- NECESSITIES ARE CHEAP,
LUXURIES PROHIBITIVELY EXPENSIVE. MET ONE SALESGIRL
WHO WAS POLITE BY US STANDARDS. WAS TOLD IN FRIENDSHIP
STORE, WHERE OLD TREASURES SOLD AT PRICES ONLY FOREIGNERS
CAN AFFORD, NOT TOO MANY CHINESE STILL HAVE ANTIQUES
TO SELL.

16. PHILIPPINES

STLP-D (12/8) SEES PRES' TRIP TO PHILS NOT PRODUCING CONCRETE RESULTS, BUT ILLUSTRATING SHIFT IN RELS WITH MARCOS INSISTING ON NEW INDEPENDENCE, ESPECIALLY ON BASES. BELIEVES US LEFT INDEPENDENT PHILS WITH POLITICAL FORMS FOR DEMOCRACY BUT NOT SOUND SOCIAL BASIS FOR IT. UNCLASSIFIED

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THINKS EMPHASIS ON BASES DIPLOMACY LIKELY DISCOURAGE US ATTENTION TO WHAT HAPPENED TO ONE-TIME SHOWCASE OF DEMOCRACY IN PAC: MARCOS' DICTATORSHIP CRUSHED TERRORISM ALONG WITH POLITICAL OPPOSITION, HAS MADE SOME ECON PROGRESS AT PRICE OF REPRESSION.

17. PACIFIC DOCTRINE

DETROIT NEWS (12/9) FINDS PACIFIC DOCTRINE EXTENSION NIXON'S GUAM DOCTRINE; BELIEVES OBJECTIVES LOFTY BUT DIFFICULT ACHIEVE, ESPECIALLY IN RELATIONSHIP WITH ALLIES WHO DO NOT GOVERN TO HIGH STDS US PRINCIPLES. CONCLUDES DOCTRINE DOES NOT MEAN MUCH UNLESS ALLIES

ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITIES VITAL TO CONDUCT 2-WAY ARRANGEMENT FOR PEACE, ECON PROGRESS.

STLP-D (12/9) REVIEWS PAC DOCTRINE AS PART PRES'
DESPERATE STRIVING APPEAR "PRESIDENTIAL," SEES
ASIAN TRIP AS MOSTLY CEREMONY. REIVEWS DOCTRINES
BY PREVIOUS PRESIDENTS, FINDS FORD'S PLATITUDINOUS
REITERATION STATUS QUO IN FE POLICY. FINDS NO HARM
IN REASSURING JAPANESE, RESTATING COMMITMENT NORMALIZING RELS WITH CHINA, RECOGNIZING SIGNIFICANCE ASIAPAC ECONOMY, BUT CONSIDERS SCARCELY STUFF OF DOCTRINES.
SAYS NEW ITEM WAS OFFER POSSIBLE RELS WITH INDOCHINA.
FINDS DOCTRINE ON BALANCE "HARDLY SIGNIFICANT FOREIGN
POLICY," SAYS HAS NAME PRES CAN BANDY ABOUT BUT LITTLE
SUBSTANCE.

CSM'S POND NOTES MOSCOW CRITICISM PAC DOCTRINE AS "REMISCENT OF ...COLD WAR...," BUT HAS DISPLAYED NO SPECIAL ALARM. BELIEVES USSR FEELS STRONG ENOUGH CONTAIN CHINA. QUOTES "IZVESTIA" THAT PRES' TRIP WAS TO SOLICIT SUPPORT FOR DOCTRINE, CONTINUED PRESENCE US BASES IN ASIA; AGAIN URGED ASIAN COLLECTIVE SECURITY SYSTEM.

STLP-D'S DUDMAN (12/14) REVIEWS PACIFIC DOCTRINE, FINDS IT INOFFENSIVE, NOT-SO-NEW. REFERS IT AS "PURE JERRY FORD," MADE SOUND SELF-CONFIDENT, GENEROUS, UNCLASSIFIED

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SIMPLE, STRAIGHTFORWARD. CONCLUDES BO4D STROKES OF COMPLETING DIP RELS WITH CHINA, PRESSING NEGOTIATED PEACE IN KOREA, BURYING HATCHET IN INDOCHINA, HAVE ALL BEEN PUT OFF UNTIL INDEFINITE FUTURE.

18. GENERAL

CRITCHFIELD (CSM 12/16) SPECULATES 1976 MAY BE YEAR US, CANADA WILL HAVE TO DECIDE WHO GETS HOW MUCH GRAIN, AND ON WHAT TERMS, SINCE 150 NATIONS NOW DEPEND ON NA GREAT PLAINS FOR FOOD. CITES PROPOSALS FOR NEW USCANADA JOINT COMMISION ON FOOD POLICY. IF COMES TO EXPORT FOOD RATIONING, AGREES CHINA, JAPAN SHOULD BE HIGH ON PRIORITY LIST, FOR TRYING SOLVE OWN FOOD PROBLEMS, BEING RELIABLE, STEADY CUSTOMERS. INGERSOLL

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MOSCOW INFO CINCPAC

COGARD GOVGUAM **TREASURY**

XMT SUVA
RANGOON
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